President's reply.—As regards the extension of jurisdiction of the Changanachery court, the matter will be re-examined by the Government.

As regards the location of the Munsiff's Court in the Taluk Cutcherry building, the matter will be considered.

37. Establishment of a Magistrate's court at Changanachery.

Mr. Ouseph Oomman (Member, Changanachery taluk) in the course of his representation said that, after it had been notified in the Gazette of the 27th Medam 1097 that the Magistrate's Court at Changanachery was abolished, the inhabitants of the taluk had been making several representations to the Government regarding their grievances in the matter, but without eliciting any definite reply. He pointed out that, in the session of the Legislative Council held in Tulam, 1099, Government had proposed to reconsider the matter, but nothing had been done so far. He, therefore, prayed that the Magistrate's Court at Changanachery be re-established in the near future, and a long-felt grievance redressed thereby.

President's reply.—As I have already stated, the question as to the necessity for the establishment of a Stationary Magistrate's Court at Changanachery is engaging the attention of the Government. Orders will be passed soon.

38. Administration of the Police Department.

Mr. V. R. Gopala Pillai (Member, Kunnatnad taluk) represented that the one important defect in the administration of the Police Department was the system of recruitment to the Police Force. Physical fitness, *i. e.*, a height of 5 ft. 5 inches and a girth of 32 inches with a prescribed age limit had formed the only basis for recruitment in the force for a long time. An elementary knowledge of Malayalam was latterly prescribed as the educational qualification. No doubt, it was difficult to get educated men at the time when the Department was organised and also subsequently for a number of years. By this old process of recruitment, a good number of men who had no education or family status, character or respectability, secured admission into the force. Some improved by chance and some got dismissed, while the others continued. A total change came over them after admission into the Department and they made use of the Police uniform as a cover to oppress the poor and to commit offences. Many of them were never sober and some had the audacity to appear drunk even in public courts. The Member continued that, in view of the responsible duties the men in the lower ranks of the service had to be entrusted with, it was highly desirable to make some radical changes in the system of recruitment, that the vernacular section of the Education Department was turning out year after year a large number of young men with school leaving certificates, and that those who had physical fitness might with advantage be selected from them, good character, family status and respectability being, as a rule, also taken into account in such selection. The Member observed that, even though the Department had been recently reorganised, the lowest pay fixed for the constabulary was not at all sufficient to attract men of education, that the lowest pay provided for the school leaving men in the Education Department was Rs. 14, and that the pay of the constabulary should therefore be raised to Rs. 15 and the above qualifications prescribed for recruitment to the force. Raising the pay would, the Member said, of course, entail additional expenditure, but he was of opinion that a reduction could then be made in the strength of the force, without detriment to its efficiency.

The Member then suggested that a Travancorean be appointed as Commissioner of Police.

His next suggestion was the abolition of the post of Assistant Superintendents. The dual control exercised by these officers over the Inspectors of Police did not at all contribute to efficiency of work. The powers and duties of the Assistant Superintendents were not well defined. Very often the orders of the Assistant Superintendents and District Superintendents clashed with each other. If the

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